



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

Detroit Police Sergeant rescues man crawling along Van Buren Street

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Thomas Clayton, 69, went out for his routine morning walk on Saturday, Jan. 28, leaving Van Buren Street and heading across Tyler Road for the sidewalk to get to Haggerty.

About halfway to Haggerty, the General Motors retiree slipped on some ice under the snow and fell, breaking his hip.

He tried to get the attention of motorists on Tyler several times by pulling himself up on poles and waving, but was unsuccessful. They just kept on driving. So, he crawled across Tyler and headed along the fence on the corner of Van Buren, trying to make it home.

Clayton remembers he kept praying for someone to come help him. Eventually, the man he calls his "angel" appeared.

John Coleman was driving from his nearby Van Buren Township home to get to work as a sergeant at the Detroit Police Department for an unusual Saturday shift. As he drove eastward on Tyler, he saw a man crawling down Van Buren Street, about two or three houses down.

Coleman, 44, said it looked like someone had fallen or was in medical difficulty, so he made a u-turn, drove into Van Buren Street and asked the man if he was all right. He wasn't.

Clayton was so happy to get help, but he didn't want Coleman to call 9-1-1. He just wanted to go home, so his wife could take care of everything.

So, Coleman gently picked him up, put him in his car and took him home. Then he carried Clayton inside his home and headed off to work, identifying himself only as "John".

Clayton's wife Sharon, who was in the bathroom getting ready to go to her hair appointment, found her husband seated in the house and, after he convinced her he actually had fallen, she called the neighbors and then 9-1-1.

The doctors didn't have to do a hip replacement because the break was clean and, amazingly, nothing was dislodged from all the crawling around. They gamma nailed him together and added a tube and a screw. He currently uses a walker to get around.

But, they wanted to thank their "angel" and didn't know how to find him. They put up a sign "Thank you, John" in their little front yard, hoping he would see it.

Coleman said he waited a week or two before stopping by with his wife and son to find out how Clayton was getting along.

"When I saw that sign on the lawn, I teared up," Sgt. Coleman said, adding he's not the kind of man who cries much.

Clayton said when he saw Coleman again, he started crying, too.

They had forged a deep relationship.

The Clayton's daughter Debbie Squier of Sumpter Township, who helps her parents with all kinds of things, helped her dad put together a letter and send it to the *Independent* so his angel, John Coleman, could be properly thanked.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Thomas Clayton, left, stands with the man he calls his "angel," Detroit Police Sgt. John Coleman, who rescued him after he had fallen on an early morning walk along Tyler Road. Clayton, 69, broke his hip in the fall and tried to crawl home, including crawling across Tyler Road. See letter on Page 5.

Sumpter Twp. Police issue warning: Beware of illegal 'bath salts'

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Feb. 16, Sumpter Township Police Officer Chaim Kozak was on patrol when he saw a man driving in circles in the middle of the Willis/Sumpter Road intersection. He made a traffic stop.

The driver told Officer Kozak that he was lost. He had driven 10 hours from Iowa with a friend because they heard another of their friends was in the hospital in Michigan. He couldn't remember what happened to the friend he drove in with.

When the driver was taken to the Sumpter holding cell, he started acting crazy, stripping himself naked and crawling the walls. Police called an ambulance.

The driver turned out to be high on "bath salts," a synthetic drug that was made illegal in Michigan last October due to the efforts of Senator Carl Levin.

But, the substance is still legal in some

other states, including Iowa.

Sumpter Detective John Toth said the driver stayed in the holding cell until he got sober.

Det. Toth said the man told him he used to do methamphetamines, but then decided to do bath salts because it is legal in Iowa.

Toth issued a warning to the public on this kind of bath salts, which is not Epsom Salts or anything else to put in the bath tub.

The designer drug "bath salts" is known by different names, including "plant food" "Ivory Wave," "Purple Wave," Vanilla Sky," and "Bliss".

"It's really horrible," Toth continued. "You get really bad reactions."



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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT Planners surprised over using Canton landfill gas

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After three members of the audience asked about landfill gas being piped in from Canton Township for the proposed electricity generating plant in Van Buren Township, VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd demanded an answer to the question.

And, the answer was not to her liking. Landfill gas would be coming from Canton.

This exchange was during a special workshop session set Feb. 29 by the VBT Planning Commission to get more in-depth information before acting on a request for final site plan approval for the landfill-gas-to-electrical-energy plant at Grace Lake Corporate Center (Visteon Village).

At issue is the application submitted by Hoosier Energy and Visteon, with Ameresco as the facilitator.

Jeff Stander, Senior Project Developer from Ameresco (putting the project together for Hoosier), began to answer questions about Canton raised from the audience by Ernie Tozier, John Delaney, and Sandy Crosswell.

“Waste Management owns three landfills — North, South and Van Buren Township,” Stander said. “Gas generated from South and Van Buren Township will be used. The compressor station is north of Van Born in Canton Township. The gas is now going from Van Buren Township to flare. Then it will be coming from the compressor to the electricity generating plant.

“All the gas comes from Waste Management and 90% is from South and Van Buren” with the rest coming from the North closed landfill, Stander said.

“It’s all one system, including north of Van Born,” Stander said.

“It’s coming from all three!” Treasurer Budd stated in surprise.

She said she questioned this when she found an approval from Canton in the planning commission’s packet of information.

“I was told there’s no gas coming from Canton and now I have to worry about what’s in Canton’s landfill, as well,” Budd said.

“They’re all connected, always were,” Stander said.

Budd confirmed her understanding that the compressor station built in Canton will be pushing the landfill gases from Canton into Van Buren Township and to the cogeneration plant.

The gas goes from VBT to the compressor in Canton and then back under Van Born to the co-generation plant.

“It allows gas from Woodland Meadows to be compressed ... It’s all one facility,” said Terry Carroll, VBT Director of Planning and Development.

“Why wasn’t I told that?” Budd asked. “I asked that question and I didn’t get told that. I think we have a problem. Maybe it’s just my problem.”

Pam Ruff said from the audience that she believes gas from the Sauk Trail Hills landfill in Canton also is being planned to go to VBT.

John Delaney said he has spoken with Mr. Moy, mechanical inspector for Canton, and he is waiting for Moy to get back to him about the issue.

The commission and audience had many more questions during the 2 hour and 40 minute meeting, so another workshop was to be planned before the commission considered action on the final site plan request.

Among the questions remaining:

- The abandonment of 94’ of Robinson Drain, at the head of Robson Drain, because construction would impact the drain. Wade Trim engineers have said the abandonment is appropriate. VBT staff promised to show Tozier the route of the drain;

- The possible disruption of underground water flow by the many pilings pounded into the earth to stabilize the ground for construction along the gravel pit that became Grace Lake. Tozier said his sump pump at his nearby home has been running “like crazy” since Visteon Village was built, where it used to run only occasionally;

- The emissions, including an MDEQ permit that was extended to November 2012 that the commissioners were supposed to get copies of, but didn’t. Commissioner Carl Johnson was concerned about the toxicity of the emissions and how the stacks are right in line with the air intakes on the office buildings at Visteon Village/ Grace Lake. Commission chairman Carol Thompson said the commission has no jurisdiction over air quality, but Commissioner Guenther agreed it would be nice to understand the emissions better. Budd also agreed, suggesting someone from the EPA should come to a meeting, something she has requested before. In the commission’s packet is a 2010 information sheet from Hoosier to Canada, since the emissions will be generated about 50 Km from the U.S. / Canadian border;

- ITC easement for the pipeline that has yet to be signed. Hoosier doesn’t want to pay for the easement if VBT doesn’t approve the project, but VBT doesn’t want to consider the project without the easement;

- DTE approval for Hoosier to use an existing bay in its power station on the Visteon property to send the power generated onto the electrical grid. DTE is expected to seek site plan approval from VBT in mid April, but Thompson noted that DTE often misses targets. Hoosier’s



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Members of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission pored over plans for a landfill-gas-to-energy plant proposed for Visteon property at Grace Lake Corporate Park at a special workshop Feb. 29. From left are Christopher Khorey of McKenna Associates planning consultants, Commission Chairman Carol Thompson, VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd, Commissioner Donald Boynton, and, standing, Jeff Stander of Ameresco, for the applicant.

attorney stated DTE didn’t want to allow Hoosier to use its empty bay, since Hoosier is seen as a rival, so Hoosier went to the Michigan Public Service Commission which facilitated an agreement;

- Concerns about the proposed 20’ buffering wall along I-275 that steps down to 14’. Commissioners want to know what that will look like, with an option of changing it; and

- Encroachment into wetlands. Delaney said he talked to three different people at MDEQ who said they didn’t get information from the Army Corps of Engineers on the wetlands. He said since the site was increased to 2 acres from the original 1 acre, it encroaches even more into the wetlands at Visteon.

Tozier, a retired engineer, said he noticed trouble at Visteon earlier that day with the water level in Grace Lake two feet higher than last fall. Workers pumped some of it out to the wetlands, then stopped.

He said when Visteon Village opened, neighbors were invited in to see the facility. When they asked about Grace Lake they were told that if the water level got too high, they would just open a valve and drain it.

Tozier said when he asked workers why they didn’t just open the valve, he was told there is no valve.

Tozier warned the commission to be very, very careful of its recommendation.

He said in the commission meeting where this was approved for recommendation to the township board, only six members were present and it carried 4-2.

Tozier said Budd had informed the commission she was looking for information from the VBT attorney before

the meeting but didn’t get it, but she voted in favor.

“If she had gotten the attorney’s information, it would have been a 3-3 dead heat,” he said.

“Beverycarefulwithyourrecommendation. Don’t let anyone bully you into anything to make a rash decision,” Tozier said, adding that one piece of information they didn’t get from the attorney made all the difference.

“Make sure you are rock solid. It matters very, very much,” Tozier concluded.

Benefit Pancake Dinner to pay medical bills for student who died in Dec.

A benefit pancake dinner to pay the medical bills of a South Middle School student who died in December will be held at the school from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on March 22.

On the menu is all-you-can-eat pancakes from King Pancake, sausage, eggs, muffins, white milk, coffee, tea and apple juice. Gift baskets also will be raffled off.

Tickets are \$6 per person or \$20 for four tickets and available at South Middle School, 45201 Owen St., Belleville.

Jordan Koger, 13, suffered from Type 1 diabetes and while on a trip out of town with his grandparents for Thanksgiving, he suffered cardiac arrest which resulted in severe brain damage.

He was taken off life support on Dec. 7.

With hospital and ambulance bills and a Life Flight back to Michigan from Tennessee, the costs have overwhelmed his family. All proceeds of the pancake dinner event will go to Jordan’s family.

Those who cannot attend the pancake dinner but wish to help are invited to send a donation to Brandie Mason (Jordan’s mother), P.O. Box 220, New Boston 48164.

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

VBT Board overrules White on emails

It took four contentious votes, a few withdrawn motions, and 45 minutes of arguing for the Van Buren Township Board to even approve an agenda at Tuesday's meeting – that came close to being adjourned before it started.

Clerk Leon Wright was absent and excused and so several votes ended 3-3.

At issue was VBT Supervisor Paul White's firm belief that he had the right (under state law) to review the emails of fellow elected officials if he had probable cause they were a part of releasing confidential personnel information to a private citizen in violation of Bullard-Plawecki.

The fire chief was suspended twice and somebody told a citizen. This citizen proclaims widely that his goal is to oust White from office. And on it goes.

It appeared White was trying to protect the employee, trying to protect the township from an employee lawsuit, and other motives.

A committee of Jahr, Budd, Wright and IT Director Rankin recently put together a revision of the township computer use policy and this is what finally was put on the agenda and passed, 4-2 (with White opposing and Partridge wanting to wait until Wright was back).

"The Supervisor can no longer snoop in our emails," stated Budd in describing the revised policy, which has a few other changes, as well. White said the revised policy WILL be sent to the attorney in the morning and if it's in violation of the law it will be voided. It's not over.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Perry and Leila MacKall of Sumpter Township came into the office last week to report a sighting of the first robin – two male robins, actually. Perry said the robins usually come to his farm about three weeks before the last snow storm of the season.

The next day, we spotted two male robins on the front lawn of the Sumpter Township Hall when we were delivering papers in the early morning hours.

Also last Thursday, Bob Mytych thought he heard a red wing blackbird behind Burger King on Belleville Road when he was out delivering *Independents*.

Then, on Friday morning, Elaine Gutierrez came into work in Belleville with a bounce to her step after hearing a beautiful chorus of birds outside her Van Buren Township home that morning.

Although Spring doesn't officially arrive until March 20, we're seeing signs everywhere.

The fundraising bus trip to the Greektown Casino planned by the Belleville Fire Department Auxiliary for March 3 was cancelled because they needed 30 people to buy tickets to fill the bus and fell short of that. The project was to raise money for the fire department, which is considered a volunteer group, being paid on call.

Since an anonymous five-page letter, allegedly from a group of fire fighters, was sent to the city council complaining about Fire Chief Lee Grant and the chief resigned with a lawyer in tow, things have been a bit unsettled.

Longtime fire fighter Brian Loranger was appointed interim chief, but then left for a week on a planned trip.



Meanwhile, the former chief's wife Kelly Grant, who was president of the Fire Department Auxiliary and in charge of the trip to the casino, is gone too. Next in line as the new president is Jennifer Blackburn, wife of a city councilman.

We received a news release saying some members of the Van Buren Township Fire Department were among the 150 fire fighters from 23 departments that planned to take part in last Sunday's "Fight for Air Climb" which was a benefit for the American Lung Association.

But, Bruce VanGemert, assigned to Fire Station 2, was the only VBT fire fighter taking part and he trained incredibly hard for the event, which was for a cause he feels passionately about.

There actually were about 1,200 climbers taking part in climbing 70 floors (1,085 stairs) or 40 floors (585 stairs) in Detroit's tallest building, the Marriott Tower at Ren Cen. The fire fighters' challenge included having them wear about 70 pounds of gear and equipment.

Bruce finished the 70 floors in 15:49:84 minutes, good enough for 284th place.

Do you remember in 2007 when John Juriga told the school board that an anonymous couple from Van Buren Township had donated \$1 million to start a Belleville Boys & Girls Club? I've been informed that the Belleville Boys & Girls Club recently was

renamed the Richard and Patricia Donahey Boys & Girls Club. Does one and one make two?

At last week's workshop session of the VBT Planning Commission, Ernie Tozier, a retired engineer and neighbor to Visteon Village / Grace Lake, urged the commission to consider that what's in the landfills of the future is changing.

He said when a person drops one of those CFL lightbulbs, he's supposed to don a Hazmat suit to clean it up, but that really won't happen. It will go in the trash with everything else and the mercury levels in the landfills will go up.

He pointed out that mercury doesn't burn and so the pollutants in the emissions from the stacks of the proposed cogeneration plant on Visteon property will increase.

McDonald's on Belleville Road is planning to "re-skin" its building and make some site changes, mainly a double drive through. The public hearing on the project is 7:30 p.m. March 28 at the VBT Planning Commission.

Last Thursday afternoon, the tall Mike's Red Apple sign was removed at the corner of First and Main. It is now Sam's Place Family Dining, with signs on the building.



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Letters

**Angels among us
in Van Buren Township**

To the Editor:

On Saturday, Jan. 28 at approximately 6:20 a.m., I set out for my routine morning walk, the same way I've been doing so for the past 14 years.

I left my home, located in Haggerty Subdivision, and proceeded to walk north on Van Buren Street towards Tyler Road. I crossed over Tyler Road and proceeded east on the walking path next to JP Morgan Chase as I usually do.

Unfortunately, this time I would not complete my daily seven-mile walk.

Half way between Van Buren Street and Haggerty Road I slipped and fell on ice that lay hidden under the snowy sidewalk. I attempted to get up but was unable to do so, as I would find out hours later that I had broken my hip!

I heard a car coming up Tyler Road and luckily there was a pole by the path so I pulled myself up and waved for help; the car just kept going as if they didn't see me. I started to panic as the temperature was rather cold and I had no idea how I was going to get home and started to pray.

After 20-30 minutes without anyone stopping to help me, I started to crawl back towards Van Buren Street and over Tyler Road. On the corner of Tyler Road and Van Buren Street, there's a telephone pole at the entrance of the subdivision that I used to pull myself up on my good leg. Still no one stopped to help me. I still didn't know how I could make it home on my own, so I continued to pray!

By now it was nearing 8 a.m. and I was cold and anxious. "How am I going to make it home?" I kept asking myself, but still I continued to pray.

My prayers were answered a few moments later when a young man, who was driving to work east on Tyler Road, noticed me and stopped and asked me if I was all right. (He later told me that he doesn't usually work Saturdays, but by chance was scheduled to work that day.) I explained to him what had happened and he asked if he should call 911. I told him that I just wanted to go

home and have my wife help me.

He then proceeded to help me into his car, drove me home, helped me into my house and said that he had to get to work. I asked him his name and he said it was "John" and then he was gone.

A few moments later, my wife came into the kitchen and asked what had happened. I explained to her how I fell and that a man by the name of "John" came to my aid and answered my many prayers!

She wanted to call 911 but I told her that I would be OK if I could just rest a few moments. She then proceeded to call our wonderful neighbors of 40 years, Joe and Mary Lou Kosmalski.

They at once told her to call 911 and immediately came over. My wife called 911 and within minutes the Van Buren Twp. Fire Department and the Huron Valley Rescue Emergency Team arrived. Every single one of them treated me with kindness and extreme care! I am so very grateful to each and every one of them.

Because we didn't know "John's" last name or where he lived, my granddaughter had put a sign in my yard that simply said, "THANK YOU JOHN"! We were hoping and praying that he would drive by and see it and it worked.

Earlier this week **John Coleman**, his wife and son stopped by to see how I was. Needless to say it was a very emotional reunion and I can never convey to him how very grateful and thankful I am for his heroic, angelic act of kindness.


At this time, I would like to publically and humbly thank: John Coleman, the Van Buren Twp. Fire Department, the Huron Valley Ambulance Rescue Emergency Team, and Joe and Mary Lou Kosmalski for doing EVERYTHING they did for me that day.

The Kosmalskis continue to help me and my wife out daily. They are not just our friends, but our extended family! I'd also like to thank Sam & Rita Kennedy for all of their support and kind deeds they have showered us with. These remarkable men and women ... ANGELS ... will be in my prayers daily and, again, I can't thank them enough!

Respectfully,
Tom Clayton
Van Buren Township

"Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint."


--Mark Twain



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Belleville Area Independent

More Letters

District Library Board has 'Chutzpah'

To the Editor:

AUDACIOUS!

In fact, very speechless when one reads the effrontery of the Belleville Area District Library Board.

They are spending thousands to appraise property that is poorly located, a site that is incongruous with consumer use and traffic flow, and then have the gall to tell the City of Belleville "... to ask the council to donate the property..." to keep the library downtown.

Strange, the BADLB is willing to pay thousands to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and to a private party selling their house and not to the taxpayers of the City of Belleville!

This is more like picking the pockets of the citizens of Belleville slicker than the "flim-flam-man". I've heard of spoiled brats before, and it sounds like, "If you won't let me play in your yard for free, I'll just go across the bridge and play in their yard!" (And, pay for it!)

So, here we have it. The BADLB created a turmoil by "needing" a huge building, to be located in an area unsuitable for building or ingress and egress, now willing to scale down building size, and blackmailing the City of Belleville into staying in the current location.

There will be a millage/bond request on the November ballot, have no fear. For the first shot - VOTE NO!

Do I have this correct? I believe the Hebrew word for this is "Chutzpah"!

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Obituaries



Robert L. "Bob" Bowns

ROBERT L. 'BOB' BOWNS

(August 26, 1938 - February 29, 2012)

Robert L. "Bob" Bowns, age 73, of Millersburgh, MI, and formerly of Belleville, passed away Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at Alpena Regional Medical Center.

He was born August 26, 1938 in Wixom, MI, the son of Dewey L. and Hazel (Wilson) Bowns. Bob was a 1956 graduate of Belleville High School. He served in the MI National Air Guard from 1956-1963. He was employed by Ford Motor Company, Ypsilanti plant for 38 ½ years, retiring in 1994. On May 24, 1958, he married Ermaline "Katie" Buckner and she preceded him in death August 30, 1983.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Phoenix #13 F&AM. He loved bowling, golf, gardening and his beloved tractors.

Survivors include: one daughter Robin Bowns of Wayne, MI; one son Bryan Bowns of Millersburgh, MI; three grandchildren Nicole (Philip) Hesser, Nicholas and Robert D. Bowns; one sister, Pat Smith of Clinton, MI; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Dorothy Zachow and Gloria Wightman, and one granddaughter, Elizabeth.

The funeral service was at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3 at Stark Funeral Service, Ypsilanti, with Dr. Ernest Terry Jr. officiating. Burial followed in Highland Cemetery. Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Diabetes Association. Envelopes are available at the funeral home where the family received friends 2-4 & 6-9 pm on Friday with a Masonic Memorial Service at 7 pm. Please sign his guest book at www.starkfuneral.com.

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DANIEL AARON GREATHOUSE

(August 17, 1945 - February 28, 2012)

Daniel Aaron Greathouse, age 66, of Ecorse, MI passed away on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital, Wyandotte, MI. He was born in Columbus, GA, son of Robert James and Virginia Edith (Lee) Greathouse.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was a former Mason, and was a Golf Pro and member of the PGA, and taught for many years at the Lake in the Woods and the Harbor Club golf courses, Belleville. Daniel was also a race fan, and loved supporting his son's stock car racing.

Daniel is survived by his wife of nearly 29 years, Judith Ann (Suliman) Greathouse; one son Aaron Greathouse of Ecorse, MI; his mother, Virginia Greathouse of Canton, OH; a sister, Diane Brinkley of Ft. Myers, FL; a brother, Robert Greathouse of Ohio; also numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert James Greathouse.

Visitation was at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, on Sunday from 1-4PM & 6-8 PM with a funeral service on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 1 PM. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or the American Cancer Society and would be appreciated by the family. Please sign Daniel's on-line guest book and share a memory with his family at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



HARRY DANIEL DZIERICKI

(November 29, 1930 - February 27, 2012)

Age 81. Served in U.S. Marine Corps. Survived by his son Daniel; daughters Diane Johnson and Dee Smith; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a brother Henry. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

BETTY LOU SMITH

(June 30, 1932 - February 28, 2012)

Age 79, passed at Southgate Manor. Survived by son Gary (Maxine) Smith of Belleville; sister Shirley Lowery; brothers Kenneth and Michael Giblin; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

More Letters

Remember positive things Ficano brought us

Dear Editor:

The Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, representing Democrat members from the City of Belleville, and the Townships of Huron, Sumpster and Van Buren, voted as an organization to ask our greater community to remember that our Chief Executive Officer Robert Ficano deserves special consideration for his long legacy of helping our Western Wayne communities.

Despite the current turmoil surrounding our Chief Executive, we should keep in mind that Mr. Ficano has served our communities very well over the years. The Democratic Club felt it was important to ask our citizens not to attribute improper conduct when the investigation in our county is still a work in progress.

In contrast to the present turmoil, we should remember that within our home communities many positive things have happened as a direct result of Bob Ficano's hard work, dedication and leadership as our County CEO.

Bob Ficano has served our communities for 30 years as Sheriff and then as our Wayne County Chief Executive. Throughout this time, he has been both responsive to our needs as a community and a dependable

public servant. Some of the most recent County successes include the following:

1. Creation of the Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program — that program empowered many Wayne County families to stay in their homes.

2. Creation of a successful regional authority for Cobo Hall, keeping the North American International Auto Show in the Motor City -- where it belongs.

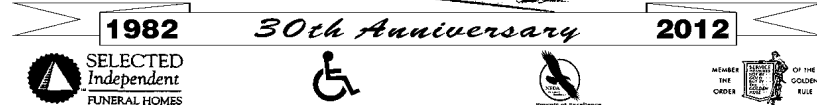
3. Facilitation of one of the largest investments in the history of Detroit through the agreement between Vanguard Corporation and the DMC. Now many jobs for metro Detroit health care professionals and others have been secured.

4. Leadership in the call for legislation that enabled "Detroit Aerotropolis," thereby turning our airport region into an economic engine for substantial employment for our residents and opportunities to create a wide variety of businesses (transportation services, warehousing, manufacturing, security, and technology, among others).

For the good and effective leader he has been over the years, we give our sincere thanks to Robert Ficano. We ask our community to keep a fair and an open mind for Robert Ficano during these trying times.

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More Letters

Sumpter wants to be considered true partner

To the Editor:

In the Thursday, March 1st edition of the *Belleville-Area Independent* ("Unanimous School Board vote closes two schools"), Superintendent Van Tassel is quoted as saying, "The redistricting will bring back neighborhood schools, so the students that live near Tyler, for example, will be able to attend the school they can see out of their windows."

I admire the Van Buren School Board and respect them greatly for their dedication and commitment to a very, very difficult job. They deserve high praise for the outstanding job they do in making the agonizing and difficult decisions they make from time to time.

On the other hand, however, Mr. Van Tassel's remarks only exacerbates the belief among many Sumpter Township residents that in the Tri-community scheme of things we are either an after-thought or just ignored altogether. Elwell Elementary is the last traditional public school located within Sumpter Township's borders and it is highly unlikely that any of the students in the Elwell attendance area will be able to look out their window and see their "new school".

To further vent my frustration and concern as a Sumpter Township resident, I would just like to refer to a Sumpter Township Board meeting about four years ago when architects of the proposed new library building presented a graphic demonstration to our residents praising the proposed location, stating that "seniors can walk to the library and kids can ride their bikes." None of Sumpter Township citizens will be walking to the new library regardless of where it's built, nor will very many of our children be riding their bikes for obvious reasons.

Sumpter Township contributes very significant tax dollars to both the Van Buren School District and to the Belleville Area District Library. We would like to be recognized more as a relevant partner and that our residents are just as important as the residents of other communities. I'm sure Mr. Van Tassel did not mean to slight Sumpter Township or its residents.

This letter is in no way intended as criticism of Mr. Van Tassel or the Van Buren School Board. These are tough times and painful decisions on many levels are a by-

product of our present economic climate. Yet, decisions have to be made. Most of us in Sumpter Township fully understand this and stand firmly behind those who are charged with making these decisions.

My hope is that this letter will heighten the sensitivities regarding the pride we have as residents of Sumpter Township and the love we have for our community.

Sincerely,

John W. Morgan

Sumpter Township Treasurer

We tried to save Elwell Elementary School

To the Editor:

This is a letter, dated Feb. 24, 2012, sent to Van Buren Public School, Attn: Mr. Michael Van Tassel, Superintendent, concerning "The Closing [of] Elwell Elementary School." It is signed by Sumpter Township Supervisor Johnny Vawters and the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees.

Dear Superintendent Van Tassel:

As the Supervisor and a resident of Sumpter Township, I was disappointed to learn that the Van Buren Public School Board decided to close Elwell Elementary located in Sumpter Township.

I certainly can appreciate the budget difficulties that your Board faces during this dismal economic time. Please know that I also face the same difficult issues in my Township in that the Township Board has demands for services without the funds to provide those services. At times, we reach the same level of frustration in having also to make cuts. However, I wanted to bring a very important fact to the attention of you and the Board that may impact your decision.

As you know, the citizens of Sumpter Township have always supported the local schools with millage renewals and increases along with participating in other community activities. This support is without conditions in that we know and believe that our children are the future and that education will impact

that future immensely. However, I cannot ignore the fact that Elwell School is the only Van Buren School located within Sumpter Township.

In an effort to reach out to all areas in the School District I ask on behalf of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees and all Sumpter Township residents that you reconsider the decision to close Elwell School. I would be more than eager to meet with you or representatives of the School District to find the funding for this option. Before we

demolish a landmark that has meant so much to so many residents of Sumpter, I am asking for one more review and consideration.

Sincerely,

Johnny Vawters, Supervisor, and
Sumpter Township Board of Trustees

Editor's Note: A letter from the Sumpter Supervisor was mentioned in passing at the Feb. 27 meeting where the School Board officially approved the closings of Elwell and Haggerty elementary schools.

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More Letters

Where is the anger, the outrage, the pitchforks?

To the Editor:

I'm mad as @OXX and can't take it any more. I see legalized corruption at all levels of government, and I get sick to my stomach.

I liked Bob Ficano -- always happy, big toothy smile. Now, we know what made him so happy -- just look at the self-serving cronyism and we as taxpayers pay for this.

Bob, retire or don't run for reelection. We'll find an airport to name after you and all will be forgiven.

At the national level, elected people and their minions live like royal Frenchmen in 1780 France and once again we pay for this. We now have a President that makes pronouncements. He doesn't let the Constitution or will of the people stand in his way.

We were asked to spend a gazillion dollars of our money on shovel-ready jobs to get us out of this recession. A year later on TV he laughs and says, "I guess they weren't quite shovel-ready."

Our money, not his. At the height of the recession he told those evil bankers that he was all that stood between them and the people with pitchforks.

My question is: Where is the anger, the outrage, the pitchforks? No waste in government? Only higher taxes and more

waste will solve our problem?

Mad as @OXX, you betcha.

Well, have to go now to fill up the old van. Hey, Mr. Obama, thanks for that tip about algae. I can't afford gas any more.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

We'll have ice skating, roller skating benefits

To the Editor:

Hello, my name is April Warner and I am one of the committee members for the Belleville Relay for Life event. My team is going to be hosting a few fundraisers in the next few months and I wanted to see if they could possibly get into the paper.

Our first fundraiser is going to be on Thursday, March 29, at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube from 6 to 8 p.m. It will be a skating party. One hundred percent of the admission fees go to Relay for Life of Belleville. The admission is \$5 and kids four and under are free. This event is open to the public so everyone is welcome to attend. Skate rental will be available at the Cube for \$3... You can contact me at this email address with any questions or to reserve/purchase tickets in advance.

Our second fundraiser will be on Sunday, April 22, at Rollers Skate Park in Sumpter. The times for this event are 2 to 5 p.m. The cost is \$5 for admission, with a portion of the admission going back to Relay for Life of Belleville. Skate rental will be available for \$2. This is, again, open to the public so

everyone is welcome to attend.

If you have any questions please let me know and I will be happy to answer them.

April Warner, (734) 732-2286
April_warner26@hotmail.com

Corned beef & cabbage BACA dinner on Sunday

To the Editor:

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts is offering a fund-raising corned beef and cabbage dinner March 11 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Masonic Temple on the corner of High and Main in Belleville.

A Chinese Auction along with time to visit with your neighbors will be some of the events of the day. The price of the full-course dinner is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children age 10 and under. We will offer dinners to go. Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day early. We look forward to seeing you. Thank you, Kay Atkins, President
Belleville Area Council for the Arts

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Photo by Sam Cumberledge

Travis Krushlin, 11, a Boy Scout with Troop 231 and fifth grader at Elwell Elementary School, read Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech at the Black History Month celebration at the Sumpter Township Community Center on Feb. 17. Almost 100 people attended the annual event that featured a wide variety of speakers and music. Travis' sister Emily, 15, a ninth grader at Belleville High School, announced dignitaries as they entered the event. Travis and Emily are the children of John and Tammy Krushlin. Senior Citizen Coordinator Mary Ann Watson was in charge of the event.

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Central Michigan Freshman Guard Jessica Green, Belleville High School Class of 2011.


Jessica Green leads CMU past Eastern Michigan in basketball

MOUNT PLEASANT – Central Michigan University basketball star and former Belleville Lady Tiger Jessica Green led Central Michigan with 12 points in a 61-46 victory on Feb. 27, played at CMU.

Green added three assists while the defense held the Eagles off the scoreboard with just 2 points in the final 10 minutes of regulation.

Green will continue her efforts as CMU next competes in the semifinals of the MAC Tournament, set to get underway tomorrow at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, OH. The victory over the Eagles improved CMU's record to 16-14 overall.

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Greca Choi Kwang Do instructor to test for 'International Instructor'

By Bob Mytych
Independent Sports Editor

Greca Choi Kwang Do of Belleville, a local business that has been providing self defense, fitness training, and personal development for the past 19 years, will soon add another high ranking instructor to its school.

Longtime staff instructor Nick Wright has been approved to test for the rank of 4th Degree Black Belt and International Instructor, a feat that has taken him 13 years.

"I started martial arts training in order to maintain an active lifestyle," Wright said. "Plus I really enjoy the challenge."

Wright has been dedicated and focused on his training and in addition, has served as a staff instructor at the studio since September 2002.

"It's a very challenging test," said Master Scott Greca, owner of Greca Choi Kwang-Do. "It's conducted in front of our founder-Grandmaster Choi and it will cover every aspect of Nick's training."

At the end of March 2012, Choi Kwang-Do will celebrate its 25th anniversary in Atlanta, Georgia, where all week long Wright will endure his testing.

"It's an honor to test with other high-ranking instructors I have come to know over the years," Wright adds.

"Through Choi Kwang-Do I am in better shape now that at any point in my life and I am more confident around and speaking in front of others," Wright said.

Located between Big Boy and Pennzoil on Belleville Road in their new facility, Greca Choi Kwang-Do has classes for all ages and abilities including women's self defense, children's safety seminars, demonstrations, and summer camps. Call (734) 697-1950 for reenrollment and class details.



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John Herman announces candidacy for Van Buren Township Treasurer

John Herman announces he will seek the office of Treasurer for Van Buren Township in this fall's election.

Herman has a degree in Business Management, having attended Schoolcraft and Ohio State colleges. He worked 35 years at Ford Motor Company in accounting, industrial relations, security and fire and safety.

He previously served on the Van Buren Township Board as a Trustee from 1996 to 2006, with experience on the Planning Commission, as chair, and the Economic Development Committee.

Herman also is a charter member of the

Van Buren Public Safety Committee and a charter member of C.H.I.P.S.

Herman said he believes more transparency is needed from the Treasurer's office and that office should offer more assistance to the taxpayers.

Herman has served as president of the Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club for the past four years, and was vice president for several years before that.

Herman is married to Pat and has two adult children and three grandsons.



John Herman

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Animals Rescue

"DANNY"



Say HI to **Danny**. **Danny's** life here at FMAR has been a bit rough from the start but things appear to be looking up for this resilient little guy. He came to us as a kitten and it was soon apparent he had some major tummy issues. Through-out all the tests, medicine and food trials, **Danny** has remain a sweet and playful cat that loves everyone even the ones who had to bathe him frequently. He holds no grudges! We believe he has a cat form of irritable bowel syndrome but think we may have found a solution in a high-fiber food although **Danny** may still need medicine through-out his life too. Aside from his delicate condition, **Danny** is a typical young cat that loves to play the day away when he's not napping that is. Petting his super soft fur is an excellent stress reducer and he will gladly let you as he comfortably naps on your lap. His unique multi-colored upper body coloring is completely enhanced by his white underbelly and paws and you'll absolutely love his little raccoon-masked face. Don't let **Danny's** condition stop you from meeting him because once you do we are sure you'll love him tummy issues and all. **Danny** is neutered, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped. Call today to set up a time to meet this special needs kitty.

734 461-9458

McDonald's sets McTeachers Night to earn money for Elwell

McDonald's on Belleville Road is hosting McTeachers Night from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 15, to raise money for Elwell Elementary School.

Manager Keith Lambert said 15% of the sales during those hours will be donated to Elwell.

Principal Sue Fleming and teachers from the school will be volunteering as servers for the event and there will be crafts for children, product sampling, and other special surprises for the whole family.

"The more people who show up, the more money Elwell will get," Lambert said.

Dr. Fleming said, since Elwell is closing, the money will follow the children to their new schools -- Rawsonville, Edgemont, and Savage -- for either their activity funds or some technology for the schools.

She said Elwell didn't purchase technology last year, so maybe the funds could buy some Nooks for the schools.

"It's kind of a Last Hurrah for Elwell," Lambert said.



Month of MARCH DISCOUNTS AND SAVINGS

Join our day care family

OUR FATHER'S CHILD CHRISTIAN CARE
111 SOUTH ST. (734) 697-2985

DHS accepted/full/part/drop/extended hrs

***Bouncy...creative...clapping...singing...imaginative...
dancing...skipping...joyful children !!!!!
For You, O LORD, we bless the righteous; with favor
You will surround him as with a shield. Psalm 5:12(NKJV)

25% OFF 1 ITEM IN THE STORE w/AD*

Marti's Gift Gallery

668 E. Huron River Drive
Belleville, MI 48111 734-699-GIFT



Where you'll find the most unique collection of St. Patrick's Day gifts for your family and friends.

- Clubs Cards
- Clubs Home Decor
- Clubs Heritage Lace
- Clubs Jewelry
- Clubs Inspirational Throws
- Clubs Swan Creek Candles
- Clubs Country Home Creations Dip Mixes
- Clubs Remembrance Collection
- Clubs Music Boxes
- Clubs Porcelain Dolls
- Clubs Baby
- Clubs Baptism/Christening Gifts
- Clubs Military/Armed Forces Decor

HOURS:
Tues., Thurs. & Fri.
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday
Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday & Monday



GIFT CERTIFICATES

*LIMIT 1 PER VISIT.

Dr. Lawrence Jelsch

General Dentist



CLEANING
& CHECK-UP

\$59.00

New patients only. Includes regular teeth cleaning, doctor's exam and up to 4 bitewing x-rays. Call on or before March 30, 2012. Please mention this ad when calling.

734-697-8597

152 Main St., Suite 7
Belleville, MI

March Birthdays

March 1 – Royce Acho
 March 5 – Chad Lessler
 March 9 – Jesse and Jared Schrecengost
 March 10 – Mason Schrecengost
 March 19 – John Pollard
 March 25 – Sandra Todd
 March 27 – Jessy Schultz, Chelsea Schultz

Do you have a birthday in March? Does anyone you know have a March birthday? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

**One Call Does It All . . .
 . . . At the Independent
 699-9020**

**FULL
 COLOR**
Performance T-shirts
FEEL THE DIFFERENCE
 No Set Up Fees – No Minimums
 A Design Line Embroidery

 10669 Belleville Rd. (behind Big Boy)
 734-697-3545

**Mr. Mouse
 Has His Own
 Website!**
Visit:
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 NEW & GENTLY USED BOOKS
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 FIRST PROJECT.
 SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.



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 • SALES
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 ♦ All Makes & Models
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 WITH GUARANTEE!**
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 19636 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111

Start something BIG



**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw
 County is now serving the Belleville area,
 and looking for volunteers!**



You don't have to change
 your life...to *Start Something
 BIG* in your community!

For more information on how YOU can become a Big, email
 us at inquiry@bbbswashtenaw.org, or call our office at
 734.975.0933.

Bethany Bible Church of Belleville presents. . .
LEGACY FIVE
 On **in concert**
Friday, March 23rd @ 7pm
 At
Romulus High School
 9650 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174
 Tickets on sale now for \$12 (\$14 at-the-door)
 * 1/2 price for kids 12 and under
 Call **734-697-7456**
 or visit: www.bethanybiblechurch.com



FROM
 NASHVILLE, TN



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Jeff Kotlarek of Tyler Road, Romulus, reads his *Independent* on Norwegian Cruise Line's ship the Epic, one of the largest ships at sea. Jeff sailed to Nassau, St. Thomas and St. Marteen in the Carribean.

For those who are considering submitting a photo, be advised that your entry will be run when space allows. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before it's printed. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$25 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$30 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

Banquet Room Available

Tinpan
 SALOON & PIZZERIA

Open 7 Days a Week at 8am




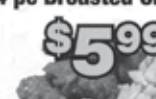



• Pizza
 • Salad
 • Pasta
 • Burgers
 • Subs
 • Broasted Chicken

Serving 8am **BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER**

ANY TWO FOR \$15.00
 11am to Close - Beverage Purchase Required for Each Meal - Dine In Only
 1/2 Slab of Ribs • Broasted Chicken
 Sirloin Steak • Fish Dinner (Cod) • Smelt Dinner
 Above Includes Cup of Soup or Salad, Potato or Rice & Nuggets
 Fiesta Salad or Fried Chicken Salad • Lasagna

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT!
 THURSDAY-KARAOKE 8pm-Midnight
 FRIDAY-DJ NIGHT 9pm-1am
 SATURDAY-LIVE BAND 9pm-1am

DAILY DINE-IN SPECIALS
 Beverage Purchase Required for Each Meal. 4pm to 9pm.

SUNDAY 1/2 Price Pizza 	MONDAY Slab of Ribs Choice of Potato & Salad  \$10 ⁹⁹	TUESDAY All You Can Eat Pizza-Spaghetti-Salad Per Person  \$6 ⁹⁹
WEDNESDAY 4 pc Broasted Chicken  \$5 ⁹⁹	THURSDAY Surf & Turf  \$11 ⁹⁹	FRIDAY All You Can Eat Fish & Chips  \$7 ⁹⁹
		SATURDAY 1 lb. Crab Legs \$11 ⁹⁹ 50¢ Wings 

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS **734-699-7066** WE DELIVER!
 19350 Sumpter Road • Next to Ace Hardware

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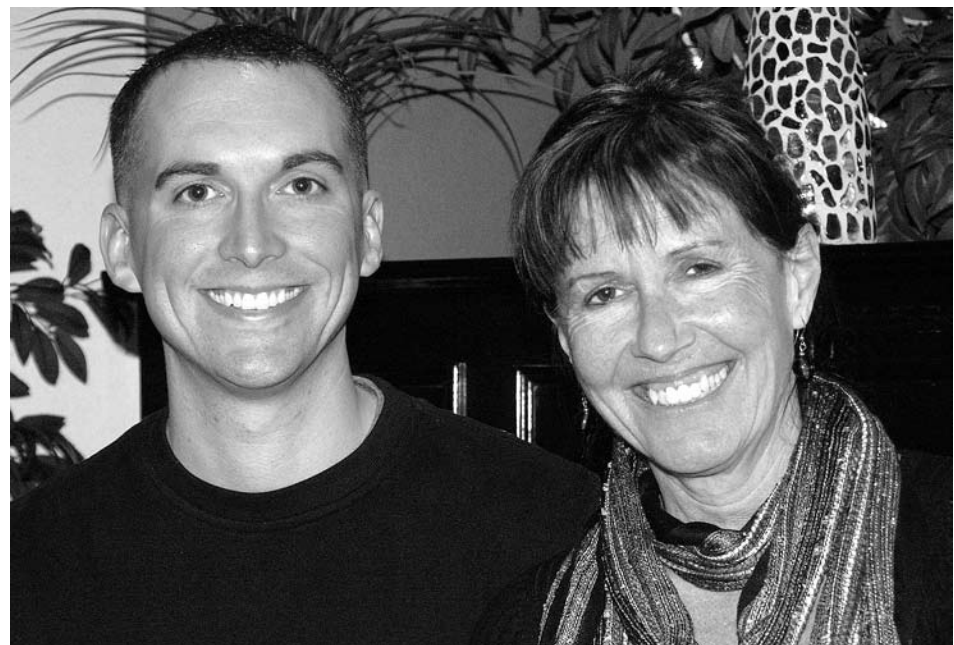
FISH SANDWICH
\$2.49



21 PIECE SHRIMP & FRY BASKET
\$3.99

ALL AMERICAN FOOD®
BELLEVILLE A&W RESTAURANT
DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS & COMBOS

148 W. COLUMBIA AVE. • 699-1800



Independent photo by Bob Mytych

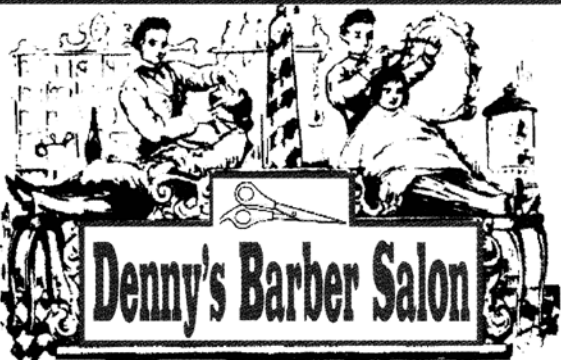
Brandon Spears, left, son of John and Cindy Dakis of Belleville, poses for a picture with his mother on Sunday after returning from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Spears, a 2009 graduate of Belleville High School, is a Marine Corps 1st Lt. Air Support Control Officer based in Cherry Point, NC. He dropped in at his parents' restaurant, the Belleville Charhouse on Main Street.

Community Chorus invites public to Cabaret performance on Sunday

The public is invited to hear the Belleville Community Chorus stepping out with its 4th-annual Cabaret performance at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at Open Arms Lutheran Church, 7865 Belleville Road.

The Cabaret program features chorus members in solo, duet and ensemble versions of pop, oldies, show tunes and more. The concert is free, though donations to support the chorus are encouraged and welcome. Food and refreshments will be available.

Members of the chorus are from Belleville, Sumpter, Van Buren, and Ypsilanti. For more information, call 734-645-0235.



EVERYDAY SPECIALS

Men's Haircuts \$9
First Time Visit

Ladies Haircuts \$14
First Time Visit

Men's Cut & Shave \$19

Ladies Chemical Services 20% OFF

Haircut, Manicure, Pedicure \$39⁰⁰

Denny's Barber Salon

36 Main Street Belleville, MI
Service without Appointments

Private Room For Rent. Completely Furnished. Salon Is Licensed For Barber & Cosmetologist. Must Have Your Own Clientel. Call Denny For Info At: (734) 697-4485

C.T.S. AUTO

 **Cash Paid For Your Junk or** 

Wrecked Cars or Trucks!

If You Can't Or Don't Want To

 **Donate It, call Us.** 

We Will Pick It Up Or You

 **Can Drive It In For More \$.** 

16007 Pardee, Taylor, Michigan

734-282-1700

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!

SAM'S BAR

WEEKLY SPECIALS!

March 14 - LADIES NIGHT
Wear Your Silly Sunglasses!

March 17 - ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY
Green Beer • Corned Beef & Cabbage

March 21 - LADIES NIGHT
Dress Up As 50's!

March 28 - LADIES NIGHT
Disco Days!



40675 Bemis @ Savage ~ Sumpter
(734) 699-8526

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

AREA TRAINEE for local Real Estate Firm. For appointment call (734) 697-1800 TFN

CDLA DRIVER wanted for Belleville Based Trucking Company. Mostly local. Home nights. (734) 270-2733 3/01

RELIABLE PERSON TO CARE FOR 2 Children in my Romulus Home. 3 days per week after school. Light house-keeping, own transportation a must. References & Interview required. Call before 7 p.m. (734) 697-9628

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

**FREE HOMES!
FREE HANDYMAN
SPECIALS!
FREE 2 BED 1 BATH
HOMES!**

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Lakeview Today
888-219-5958
Or apply online
www.freemobilehomes.net
EHO Expires 03/30/2012
*some restrictions apply

Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

HOUSE FOR SALE

RAWSONVILLE WOODS

HANDYMAN BLOWOUT!

HOMES FOR \$100!

Many to Choose.

Available Now.

Call Raymond!!!

**Bankruptcy, Foreclosures,
and Bad Credit OK!**

Accepting All Applications!

734-461-6700

ESTATE SALE

ESTATE SALE

Saturday & Sunday

March 17-18 10am-5pm

24034 Bohn Rd., Belleville

(Between Wear & Dunn Roads)

**Beautiful Home Furnishings
& Home Decor; Lamps, Rugs,
Artwork, Appliances, Computer
Desk, w/Matching Trundle Bed,
Collectables, Crafts, Craft
Supplies and Much More!**

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Doug Dalton Auctioneer Presents ESTATE ANTIQUE AUCTION

Friday Night, March 9, 5 & 6pm

Preview 4:00 pm Day of Sale

ROMULUS PROGRESSIVE CLUB, 11580 OZGA RD. ROMULUS

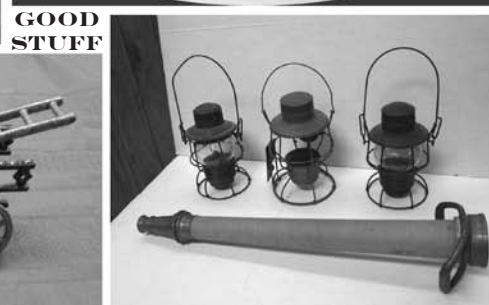
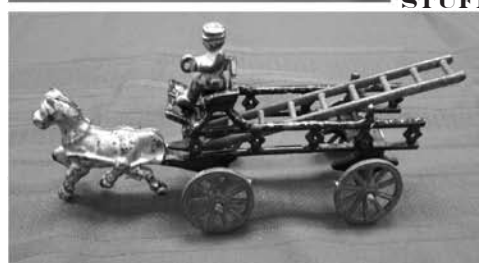
DIRECTIONS: Take I-94 to Haggerty Rd. Exit, (1st exit West of I-275) go South 1 mile to Huron River Drive, then East or left 1.5 miles to a 5 point intersection in Romulus. Turn sharp left, your there!

2 Auction Rings

5pm Auction (Ring #1- Club Room): Huge Antique Reference Book Collection Including Books on Furniture, Glassware, China Pottery, Toys, Dolls, Advertising, Guns, Military (Civil War) Western, Art Works, Political, Primitives, Sports, Ladies Subjects and Much More (Approximately 1800+ Sold by the Box)

5pm Auction (Ring #2 - Back of Main Room): Lg. Lantern Collection incl. 30 Railroad Lanterns, Inspectors Lanterns and More.

6pm Auction includes: Large Advertising Sign Collection with Coca-Cola Signs, Excellent Group of Pin-Up Art, Coin-Op, Fine Jewelry, Furniture, Art Works, China, Military, Musical Instruments, Pocket Knives, Primitives, Toys and So Much More !



**GOOD
STUFF**

TO SEE LOTS OF PHOTOS & DETAILED LISTING, GO TO
www.DougDaltonAuctioneer.com

Doug Dalton Auctioneer 38 Henry St. Belleville MI 1-800-801-6452

Michigan Auctioneers Lic. # 2801000063 Certified Estate Appraiser

Absolute Auto Care, Inc.

**590 E. HURON RIVER DR.
BELLEVILLE, MI**

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- STARTERS
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- ALTERNATORS
- BRAKES
- TRANSMISSIONS
- VINYL LETTERING & GRAPHICS
- FRONT END
- SHOCKS
- POWER STEERING
- WATER PUMPS
- TUNE-UPS
- BELTS-DRIVE
- ELECTRICAL
- TIRES NEW/USED
- WHEEL BEARING
- A/C
- FUEL PUMP
- ALIGNMENTS

**FRONT END
ALIGNMENT \$49⁹⁵**

*with coupon • Not valid with any other offer.
Coupon expires March 31, 2012.*

Absolute Auto Care Coupon • Limit 1 coupon per person. BAI

**10% OFF
LABOR**

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Absolute Auto Care Coupon • Limit 1 coupon per person. BAI

**15% OFF
LABOR FOR
SENIORS**

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

1979 VW BAJA Rebuilt Motor. \$2500
obo. (313) 870-7053 3/15

HP DESKTOP COMPUTER, loaded with
Windows & Full Microsoft Office Suite.
Upgraded 19" flat screen monitor. HP
Photosmart printer, scanner, copier, fax.
Great Value \$275. (734) 697-6344 3/22

MOM TO MOM SALE

KEYSTONE ACADEMY, 47925 Bemis
Rd. Mom 2 Mom Sale. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
March 24th. Tables \$10. Admission \$1.
(734) 697-9470 3/22

VEHICLE FOR SALE

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!
(734) 282-1700 TFN

MUST SELL - 1999 HD ROAD KING.
6,345 miles, Stage 1 exhaust, V Twin,
Lots of chrome, Many extras. \$10,500
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1994 JEEP. Dealer Maintained. \$3000
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2008 FORD RANGER XLT. 12,000
miles, 5 speed manual, cruise, running
boards, cap, AM/FM/CD. Asking
\$11,000. (734) 699-9227 after 6 p.m. 3/22

WANTED

**WANTED:
JUNK CARS**

**Running or Not. Top \$
Paid. Call For Free
Pickup. Drive In For
Extra Dollars.**

734-282-1700

ST.VINCENT DePAUL is in need of
your CLEAN in Working Condition
useable stoves, refrigerators, washers
& dryers. For needy families in
Belleville, Van Buren & Sumpter areas.
(734) 461-2763 TFN

WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS
for the homeless. Please drop off at
Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive.
(734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - SMALL CONTAINERS
of Shampoo, Toothpaste, etc. to take
to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at
Bladez's, 601 E. Huron River Dr.
(734) 697-5600 TFN

LOST

SILVER VERIZON FLIP PHONE on
Sat. Feb. 18, 2012 around the Meadows
Con-dominium complex. Small reward
offered. (734) 260-6017 3/08

LOST/STOLEN WHITE IPOD from
Lodge Lanes February 19th. Little
girls Christmas gift. Reward. Contact
JOJO827@MSN.COM 3/15

MALE HUSKY. Red collar w/ pink leash
with name of Tackett. Lost at Elwell &
Wear Rds. last week. (734) 309-5324 3/15

LOST MARCH 2nd. DAISY DOG.
Carmel color w/darker ears & tail.
Weight 8 lbs. Red collar. Vicinity of
Savage Rd. near Savage School. Name
Chet. REWARD (734) 697-7839 or
(734) 646-3459. 3/22

FOUND

FOUND - LOOKS Like JACK RUSSELL
Beagle Mix. White body, Black/Brown
markings on face. Looks young, maybe
1 1/2 -2 yrs. old. Found by Bellevilla
Condos. (734) 697-3546 3/22

GOLD HEAVY CHAIN BRACELET.
Engraved. Found approx. 1 yr. ago, just
turned into office. (734) 699-9020 3/22

FREE

INGRID LONG, WILLOW RD. YOU'VE
Won a dozen free roses. Pick them
up at Main St. Flower's downtown,
Belleville. www.mainstreetflowers.com
or (734) 697-7400 TFN

FREE 6 PERSON HOT TUB. Located in
Augusta Woods. You have to remove from
deck. (734) 461-0726 3/22

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**BRAND NEW
GORGEOUS HOMES!**
Move In For \$348!
Up To 1,056 Sq./Ft.
Starting as low as \$779/month!



Call Sun Homes Today
888-235-4695
Or apply online
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EHO Expires 3/31/2012
*some restrictions apply

SM. 2 BR. BRICK HOUSE. Immediate
Occupancy (City of Belleville). Full
basement, 2 car garage. No Pets. \$775/
mo. plus utilities. \$775 security deposit.
(734) 740-5270 3/08

FOR RENT

1BR.APT.Perfect for Single or Senior Top
floor of private home, separate entrance.
Completely furnished, W-D, linens, dishes,
sm. appliances. No Pets. \$140/wk. or
\$575/mo. \$300 deposit includes utilities &
cable. (734) 697-5472 3/15

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Take Advantage Of Early Bird Rates!

Call **FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING**

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FREE ESTIMATES!!!

YEAR ROUND SERVICES

Landscaping Maintenance

Snow Removal Garage, Basement
& Attic Clean-Ups*

Removal Of: Unwanted Home
Items, Inside Or Outside Debris.

A&L SERVICES

**Home Improvement &
Handyman Service**

Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,
Electrical, Plumbing,

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Serving Belleville Since

**1995. Call Aaron Schultz
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Sarvis - N - Sons Cement

Belleville, Michigan

Match or Beat All Competitor's

Prices! Free Estimates.

Veterans & Senior Discounts.

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LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME
Jobs too LARGE - NO JOB too
SMALL. Residential Snow Plowing.
LICENSED & REFERENCES.

(734) 765-9224 TFN

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions
Discount Prices - Guaranteed !!!
(734) 282-1700 TFN

BELLEVILLE MURALIST/PAINTER
of art & graphics. Children's rooms &
man caves. (734) 231-3289 3/08

HELP WANTED

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Feel good about the work that you do. Support persons
we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training
provided. \$8.00 total per hr. plus good benefits.

Fax to 734-753-5194 New Boston
Visit us at www.Quest365.org

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GENE & SON TOWING. WE BUY
Junk Cars. Top Dollar paid. We pick
up. 7 days a week. (734) 502-4017 or
(734) 686-1250 4/05

HELP WANTED

**Looking For
Dedicated & Reliable
Bus Drivers for
Permanent Positions
for Van Buren Public
Schools. Starting Pay:
\$11.50/hour.
Call 734-699-5100**

**ALL POSITIONS! Servers,
Cooks, Bartenders.
Experience Required.
Tin Pan Restaurant
Apply in Person
19350 Sumpter Rd.
(Next to Sumpter Ace Hardware)**

**Caring, mature, enthusi-
astic people needed to
work with women who
have disabilities. Will
train the right person.
\$7.86/hr. to start with
paid for training. Please
call (734) 461-2204**

**ATTENTION:
SENIORS, RETIREES &
RESPONSIBLE ADULTS OF
ANY AGE.**

Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue
of Sumpter Twp. is seeking
dependable volunteers to work 2-4
hours a day, 1 or more days a week.
Please call or email Sandy @
(734) 417-5117 or
seatonsandra@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED

Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



The **Belleville Charhouse** on Main Street will be hosting **Veterans and Armed Forces Appreciation Days** Next Monday and Tuesday, March 12 and 13, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Ten percent of your bill will be donated to veterans along with another 10% matched by owners **John and Cindy Dakis**.

Tin Pan Saloon & Pizzeria on Sumpter Road next to Sumpter Ace Hardware offers so much more than their delicious pizza. Owner **Steve Kovach** offers daily dine-in specials like pick-any-two for \$15. Choose from half-slab ribs, broasted chicken, sirloin steak, fish and smelt dinners, fiesta or fried chicken salad, or lasagna. Pizza is also half off on Sundays. Call **(734) 699-7066**.


A **Design Line Embroidery** has opened up at **10669 Belleville Road** in the plaza north of Big Boy. Owner **Janet Manley** offers everything from silk-screening to professional embroidery. Manley invites everyone to feel the difference of full color sublimation printing on performance wear versus traditional screen printing. She also offers a wide range of full-color printing options from apparel to one-of-a-kind gift items. Call **(734) 697-3545** and visit **www.adesignline.com**.

A bowling fund raiser to benefit the **Rainbow Connection** will take place on Friday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m. at **Lodge Lanes** in Belleville. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes three games of bowling, plus pizza, pop, and shoes. The event will be hosted by the folks at **Belleville A & W**. If you can't attend and would like to donate, stop by the A&W on West Columbia and get a free float with your monetary donation. Call **(734) 699-1800**. To learn more about the group that makes children's dreams come true, visit **www.rainbowconnection.org**.

Unified Communities Credit Union on Main Street in Belleville and in Canton on Michigan Avenue is offering great financing deals on new and used auto loans, as low as 2.50% APR. They're refinancing experts, too. Visit the website at **www.unifiedcommunitiesfcu.com** or call **(734) 697-4800** in Belleville or **(734) 485-3300** in Canton.


Doug Dalton Auctioneer of Belleville is once again gearing up for another **Real Estate Auction** tomorrow evening at the **Romulus Progressive Club** on Ozga Road. Two auction rings will take place offering a huge collection of advertising signs, featuring Coca-Cola, pin-up art, coin op, fine jewelry, railroad lanterns, furniture, china, military, musical instruments, pocket knives, primitives, toys, and more. See a list of items and tons of photos, visit his website at **www.dougdaltonauctioneer.com**

Loy's Construction & Home Repairs is offering remodeling specials on basements, kitchens, bathrooms, garages, and deck re-staining. Owner **Mark Loy** is licensed and insured and is available for 24 hour emergency service. To get a free estimate, call **(734) 434-6946**.



City of Belleville

Public Notice



City of Belleville

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2012

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 P.M., at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Blackburn	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Tindall	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENT None

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Loria, Second by Smith to approve the agenda with an addition of Item 8F the appointment of an interim Fire Chief.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of February 6, 2012 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

2012 CDBG Allocation

Motion by Loria, Second by Blackburn to approve **Resolution No. 12-018** to open Public Hearing at 7:33 P.M. to receive comments & suggestions regarding the 2012 Community Development Block Grant Program.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Kelly Connors Johnson, Ph.D, L.P., and Andrea Joy Connors, D.N.P., future owners of 665 E. Huron River Drive was present to request CDBG building rehabilitation funds of 40,000 for a privately owned business to provide a comprehensive program to low income patients with medical and psychological needs.

City of Belleville will be submitting an application for the purchase of public safety communication equipment that will be a requirement to purchase in the near future.

Motion by Tindall, Second by Blackburn to close Public Hearing at 7:50 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Open Bids – Police Impound Vehicles

Motion by Tindall, Second by Blackburn to approve **Resolution No. 12-019** to open sealed bids for impound vehicles.

1997 GMC Station wagon

James Schmenk, \$261.00

Adam Barton, \$550.00

Bids referred to administration for review and recommendation.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Belleville Area District Library

The Belleville Area District Library is asking City Council to pass a resolution authorizing the Library to continue to use its existing site and the Municipal Parking lot on Fourth Street for Library purposes without additional costs to the District Library or the taxpayers of the three communities.

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 12-020** to table discussion on Belleville Area District Library request until City Council has had an opportunity to meet with the Library Board members to discuss their future plans.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. 2012 CDBG Allocation

Motion by Tindall, Second by Loria to approve **Resolution No. 12-021** to change activity of proposed CDBG goals and projects as follows:

Senior/Disabled Services	\$ 9,830.00
Senior Chore Services	\$ 1,000.00
Public Safety Communications	\$40,470.00
Program Administration	
Strategic Planning	\$ 5,700.00
Total	\$57,000.00

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Mayor's Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 12-022** to approve the re-appointment of Deborah Acho to the Parks and Recreation

Commission with term to expire on December 31, 2015.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. Zoning Ordinance – City Code Chapter 106 – Section 15.19 “Storage”

Motion by Tindall, Second by Blackburn to approve **Ordinance No. 12-001** to approve an ordinance to amend sections 15.19 “Storage”, “Zoning” in the code of ordinances of the City of Belleville to revise the regulations for recreational vehicle and trailer storage in residential district as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. Appointment of Interim Fire Chief

Motion by Loria, Second by Tindall to approve **Resolution No. 12-023** to accept resignation of Fire Chief Grant and appointment of Brian Lorange as interim Fire Chief.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Loria to approve **Resolution No. 12-024** to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

FY 2012/13

CBC Request

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) to discuss the status and strategy of pending union negotiations.

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 12-025** to recess regular meeting and enter into Executive Session at 8:58 P.M. to discuss status and strategy of pending union negotiations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a land use request on the following described property:

Parcel number V125-83-064-99-0003-005 also known as 10760 Belleville Road. This property is located on the West side of Belleville Road between North I-94 Service Drive and Tyler Road. A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below:



The applicant McDonalds USA, LLC is requesting Special Use Approval to construct and operate a drive-in restaurant as regulated by Article XIII – C-2, General Business, and Section 13.02 (a) of the Township Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at (734) 699-8913 at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Published: March 8, 2012

Posted: March 2, 2012

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Tindall to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene regular meeting at 9:22 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Tindall to adjourn meeting at 9:22 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Long, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: March 5, 2012

Published: March 8, 2012

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, March 8 – Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library’s Homegrown Knowledge Series, 7 p.m., tonight on Drug Discovery.

- Monday, March 12 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Rawsonville Elementary School

- Tuesday, March 13 – Van Buren Township September Days Senior Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected runs for VBT Police.
For more detailed police logs, see www.bellevilleareaindependent.com.

Sunday, Feb. 26:

0029 – assault & battery, 48011 S. I-94 Service Dr.
0254 – fight, 9450 Haggerty
0255 – breaking & entering, 41254 N. Woodbury
0323 – property damage accident, 41510 E. Huron River Dr.
0432 – breaking & entering, 8804 Parkwood Dr.
0502 – disturbance, 50521 W. Huron River Dr., Pine Creek

0714 – breaking & entering, 11739 Meadows Ln.
0719 – assault & battery, 79 N. Ponderosa Trl.
0853 – fraud all, 13560 Country Walk Blvd.
0921 – malicious destruction of property, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.

1346 – private property accident, 11123 Oak Ln.
1616 – assault & battery, 44911 Ecorse
1814 – noise complaint, Belmont/Elwell
1941 – disorderly conduct, 9701 Belleville, Meijer
2122 – breaking & entering, 9245 Parkwood

Monday, Feb. 27:

0221 – assault & battery, 11087 Oak Ln.
0708 – assault & battery, 84 Park Estates
0745 – assault & battery, 14 Locust Dr.
0903 – holdup alarm, 13478 Beacon Trl.
1934 – assault & battery, 45 Park Estate
1952 – assault & battery, 46131 Village Green

Tuesday, Feb. 28:

0200 – assault & battery, 11086 Oak Ln.
0304 – assault & battery, 13970 Winding Pond Dr.
0706 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 41455

Bellridge

0846 – assault & battery, 13970 Winding Pond Dr.
0925 – missing person, 41553 McBride
0926 – private property accident, 6280 W. Adams
1050 – property damage accident, I-94 Service / Hannan

1450 – assault & battery, 46720 Hull
1502 – disorderly conduct, 13722 Milton
1522 – fraud all, 11086 Buchanan
1704 – ATV/ORV complaint, 600 Sumpter
1904 – assault & battery, 9823 Barkley
2024 – larceny from auto, 10702 Oak Ln.
2317 – noise complaint, 6096 Dellor

Wednesday, Feb. 29:

0114 – assault & battery, 41482 Archwood
0114 – assault & battery, 41482 Archwood
0858 – property damage accident, I-275/Ecorse
1042 – fraud all, 7846 Kirkridge Park Dr.
1432 – trespassing, Victoria/Winchester
1855 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / W. Huron River Dr.

1935 – disturbance, 41611 S. Bellridge
2036 – operating while intoxicated, WB I-94 / Belleville

2142 – breaking & entering motor vehicle, 48601 Denton
2156 – assault & battery, 49061 Denton
2250 – breaking & entering, 49801 Cross St.
2349 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 11150 Oak Ln.

Thursday, March 1:

0018 – property damage accident, Belleville/N. I-94 Service Dr.
0540 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 10743 Oak Ln.
0602 – larceny, 51310 Sylvia
0847 – juvenile complaint, Denton/Bridge
0907 – breaking & entering, 2 Pine
1104 – property damage accident, Belleville/S. I-94 Service Dr.

1537 – disorderly conduct, 11716 Belleville
1558 – assault & battery, 9470 Hampton
1820 – disturbance, 46080 Lake Villa Dr.
2109 – assault & battery, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.
2143 – narcotics crime, Red Roof
2144 – breaking & entering, 5941 Dellor
2221 – juvenile complaint, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.

Friday, March 2:

0035 – suicide or attempt, 10971 Oak Lane
0058 – sexual assault, 43134 Pond Bluff Dr.
0828 – private property accident, Lighthouse Dr. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1016 – trespassing, 94 Daisy
1145 – trespassing, 94 Daisy

1146 – assault & battery, 46111 Village Green Ln.
1314 – harassment call, 40282 Alden Dr.
1426 – fraud all, 7154 Edwards
1500 – juvenile complaint, 41553 McBride
1616 – property damage accident, Tyler/Belleville
1815 – assault & battery, 9224 Parkwood Dr.
1946 – mental, 11520 Beckley
2052 – assault & battery, 9083 Parkwood Dr.
2156 – armed robbery, 46080 Lake Villa Dr.
2204 – breaking & entering, 6528 Briarwood
2209 – property damage accident, Hannan/Wabash

Saturday, March 3:

0206 – personal injury accident, NB I-275/Ecorse
0241 – fight, 10741 Van Buren St.
0253 – malicious destruction of property, 47207 Ecorse Rd.
0427 – breaking & entering, 8816 Parkwood Dr.
0800 – malicious destruction of property, 46825

Denton

0840 – larceny, 70 N. Ponderosa Trl.
1113 – neighbor trouble, 10753 Van Buren
1127 – child abuse, 9637 Wildflower Ct.
1459 – personal injury accident, Belleville/I-94
1553 – larceny, 6656 Congress St.
1622 – personal injury accident, EB I-94/Wayne
1623 – personal injury accident, WB I-94/I-275
1625 – fraud all, 9698 Sawcrass Ct.
1859 – assault & battery, 11086 Oak Ln.
2018 – assault & battery, 3308 Westlake
2018 – assault & battery, 3308 Westlake
2121 – disturbance, 3308 Westlake
2301 – disturbance, 46230 Chatsworth

Also on this week's log are 255 traffic stops, 57 of which were on the freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 26:

0143 – property damage accident, Sumpter/South
0312 – agency assist, 41510 E. Huron River Dr.
1126 – intrusion alarm, South Middle School
1243 – assist fire dept., 106 Clarence
1325 – intrusion alarm, 881 Sumpter
1626 – intrusion alarm, 265 Main
1645 – misc. complaint, 142 W. Wabash
2048 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court
2122 – assist fire dept., 500 N. Liberty
2349 – juvenile complaint, 509 Estrada

Monday, Feb. 27:

1042 – intimidation threat, 6 Main
1051 – suspicious person, 506 Harbour Pte. Dr.
1116 – intimidation threat, 601 Huron River
1437 – intrusion alarm, 250 W. Davis
1606 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court
1644 – property damage accident, Main/High
2138 – mental, 506 Harbour Pte. Dr.

Tuesday, Feb. 28:

0306 – agency assist, 13970 Winding Pond
0903 – misc. complaint, 6 Main
0904 – background investigation, 6 Main
0911 – background investigation, 6 Main
1136 – trespassing, Main/High
1445 – fight, Main/Third
1500 – all other traffic, Sumpter/Owen
1708 – larceny, 16 Santa Clara
1753 – breaking & entering, 383 Church
2022 – assist fire dept., 343 N. Liberty
2216 – suspicious situation, school bus lot

Wednesday, Feb. 29:

0010 – property check, Main/High
0012 – suspicious person, Belleville Bridge
0257 – property check, 190 Belle Villa Blvd.
1221 – larceny, 955 Sumpter
1506 – vehicle repossession, 90 Henry St.
1520 – vehicle lockout, 114 Potter
1610 – assist fire dept., 781 Sumpter
1637 – background investigation, 6 Main
1734 – child abuse, 301 W. Davis
1841 – trespassing, 609 Estrada
2020 – mental, 506 Harbour Pte. Dr.
2250 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter, Co-op apts.

Thursday, March 1:

0813 – disorderly conduct, BHS
0909 – background investigation, 142 Second
1441 – traffic hazard, W. Wabash/South
1557 – assist fire dept., 137 E. Columbia Ave.
1659 – warrant arrest, 6 main
1706 – fraud all, 6 Main

2012 – disorderly conduct, 496 main
2122 – motorist assist, Main/N. Liberty
2206 – intrusion alarm, South Middle School
Friday, March 2:
1021 – background investigation, 6 Main St.
1021 – agency assist, 94 Daisy
1228 – property damage accident, Sumpter/ Family Dollar
1259 – assist citizen, 94 Daisy
1517 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 125 N. Edgemont
1536 – assist fire dept., 39 Menlo Park Dr.
2103 – intrusion alarm, 281 E. Huron River Dr.
2135 – suspicious situation, 500 Robbe St.
2206 – agency assist, 46080 Lake Villa

Saturday, March 3:

0106 – agency assist, 2111 Rawsonville
0345 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter Auto
0955 – E-911 hang up/investigation, 271 Henry
1027 – E-911 hang up/investigation, 271 Henry
1110 – civil matter, 271 Henry
2233 – follow-up, 181 Church

Also on this week's log are 43 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 26:

0006 – breaking & entering report, 21000 bl. Sumpter
0143 – juvenile complaint, 24000 bl. Sherwood
0228 – assault & battery report, 51000 bl. Willis
0253 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willis
0347 – assault & battery report, Birch
1347 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Sumpter
1646 – runaway juvenile report, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

1735 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Karr
1916 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Judd
2002 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Karr
2028 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Judd

Monday, Feb. 27:

1116 – animal complaint, 24000 bl. Sherwood
1405 – alarm, 26000 bl. Sherwood
1410 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Sumpter
2232 – juvenile complaint, Montana

Tuesday, Feb. 28:

1136 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis
1352 – breaking & entering report, 10000 bl. Rawsonville

1558 – suspicious incident, 39000 bl. Willis
1746 – identity theft, 23000 bl. Elwell
1757 – ordinance violation, 19000 bl. Martinsville
1820 – ordinance violation, 17000 bl. Martinsville
2344 – animal complaint, 17000 bl. Martinsville

Wednesday, Feb. 29:

0546 – property damage accident, Rawsonville/Judd

1042 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Willis
1132 – ordinance violation, 46000 bl. Bemis
1148 – ordinance violation, 18000 bl. Sumpter
1207 – ordinance violation, 48000 bl. Willis
1501 – suspicious incident, 42000 bl. Willow
1853 – suspicious incident, 25000 bl. Sumpter
2032 – breaking & entering report, Delaware

Thursday, March 1:

0304 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Karr
0807 – larceny report, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
0940 – animal complaint, Oakville Waltz/Sumpter
0944 – suspicious incident, 5000 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

1301 – fraud report, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
1402 – civil dispute, 40000 bl. Willis
1636 – threats complaint, Birch
1718 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Oakville Waltz/Sumpter
1914 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 8100 bl. Rawsonville

1941 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Clark
2018 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter/Judd

Friday, March 2:

0810 – ordinance violation, 43000 bl. Willow
0834 – alarm, 27000 bl. Sumpter
0907 – ordinance violation, 43000 bl. Willow
0909 – animal complaint, 6400 bl. Oakville Waltz
0931 – ordinance violation, 43000 bl. Willow
0953 – alarm, 47000 bl. Harris
0954 – ordinance violation, 39000 bl. Willow
1119 – trespassing complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter

1209 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Willow
1213 – ordinance violation, 40000 bl. Willow
1230 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sumpter
1314 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Wear
1411 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Willis
1441 – ordinance violation, 44000 bl. Wear
1530 – alarm, 22000 bl. Clark
1749 – ordinance violation, 39000 bl. Willis
1756 – property damage accident, Rawsonville /

Wear

2257 – traffic hazard, 46000 bl. Arkona
2300 – traffic hazard, Martinsville/Judd
2316 – fire dept. assist, Sumpter/Judd

Saturday, March 3:

0021 – fire dept. assist, Sumpter/Judd
0106 – assist other agency, Spirits Lounge
0120 – family trouble, 42000 bl. Willis
0146 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming
0453 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter
0906 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow
0929 – family trouble, 49000 bl. Judd
1108 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 10000 bl. Rawsonville

1110 – family trouble, 49000 bl. Judd
1322 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1710 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis
1715 – larceny report, 24000 bl. Bohn
2233 – assist other agency, 7600 bl. Rawsonville
2346 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Willis

Also on this week's log are 22 miscellaneous details, 117 patrol checks, 84 traffic stops, 16 follow-up investigations, 13 citizen assists, and 15 warrant arrests.

Donald Bluhm injured in accident on I-275 on Friday afternoon

By Rosemary K. Otzman

Independent Editor

Donald Bluhm, an active, longtime member of the Belleville community, was taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti on Friday afternoon after a serious traffic accident on I-275.

On Monday, he reportedly was still in the intensive care unit of the hospital with two broken legs and extensive facial wounds.

Around 2 p.m., Bluhm reportedly was driving from eastbound I-94 to northbound I-275 when he ran into an abandoned van with a wheelchair lift in the back on the roadway.

At Monday's meeting of the Belleville City Council, council members all sent out their good wishes for his recovery. Bluhm is a longtime member of the Belleville City Service Commission and serves as chairman.

The Other Book Group: March 15 at Bayou

The Belleville Area District Library announces The Other Book Group will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 15 at the Bayou Grill in downtown Belleville.

This is not your parents' book club!

Those interested are invited to join the group at its inaugural meeting. The new library-sponsored book club is for great books, great food and drink, and great conversation.

“Meet us at the Bayou and talk about what you like to read. We will choose books there for later meetings,” said Hilary Savage, Adult Services Librarian.

Flop E. Bunny event on April 7 at Victory Park to be all free for children

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The annual pre-Easter Flop E. Bunny event at Victory Park on April 7 is sponsored by the Central Business Community, who wants it to be completely free for children this year.

That includes the pictures with the Bunny, which sometimes in the past had a charge.

At Monday's meeting of the Belleville City Council the event generated discussion because the Belleville Area Council for the Arts was asking the council to approve its use of Victory Station during the same time for a fund raiser.

BACA president Kay Atkins said her group wants to sell hot chocolate, cookies, and snacks to earn money for the purchase of property on Main Street. She stressed they would use Victory Station only if the weather was good enough for the Bunny event to be outside. In case of inclement weather, BACA would relinquish Victory Station to the Bunny, she said.

The council had already approved the CBC's Flop E. Bunny event from noon to 2 p.m. on April 7, when the BACA request came up for consideration.

Bill Wolters of the CBC said his board discussed this and decided they wanted the Flop E. Bunny event to be a completely free day, adding it has not been a revenue day for the CBC for years.

Tom Fielder of the CBC agreed that the group was asking for the use of Victory Park and plans not to have any cost of any kind, and a fund-raiser would alter the nature of the event.

Councilwoman Kim Tindall said she was under the impression that the fund raiser was blessed by the CBC, but now learned it wasn't.

DPS Director Keith Boc said there have been years when the weather started out being nice, but then the event had to move inside.

"There could be a problem," Boc said, adding BACA could already be set up in Victory Station when bad weather set in and Flop E. Bunny had to move inside.

"We're giving CBC Victory Park and the CBC doesn't want to say they don't want BACA there so they pass the buck to us," said Councilwoman Kim Tindall.

"I agree," said Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria. "We gave it to them for their function and they have control over the facility."

Loria made a motion to deny the BACA request, but it died for lack of support.

Thus, Mayor Kerreen Conley pointed out, "We didn't approve it."

In other business at Monday's 35-minute meeting, the council:

- Approved, besides the Flop E. Bunny event on April 7, the CBC's requests to hold the Taste of Belleville at Horizon Park from 5 to 7 p.m. on Aug. 16 and Halloween in downtown Belleville from 5 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 31;
- Approved the mayor's appointments

of Jim Shrove to the Parks and Recreation Commission and Councilman Tom Smith to the Elections Commission, both with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2015;

- Approved the timetable of meetings for preparing the 2012-13 city budget for a June 4 adoption. This starts with the presentation of the proposed budget by the city manager to the council on May 7;
- Set a special meeting for 6:30 p.m. March 15 to interview attorneys, with the goal of awarding the city attorney position at the March 19 council meeting;
- Approved accounts payable in the amount of \$218,104.43 and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to BS&A, \$695 for tech support; to DEQ, \$2,000 in annual fees; to Evans Electric, \$595 for repair/maintenance from general fund/DDA; to Service Electric, \$2,782.35 and \$5,047 for pole replacements from the general fund/DDA (with checks already in hand from the insurance company); and to Elite Cleaning, \$2,060 to sanitize, on an

emergency basis, a resident's basement at 109 Bedell from sewer backup caused by a clogged main;

- Heard Mayor Conley announce that she will be setting a joint meeting between the City Council and the Downtown Development Authority in April, in advance of finalizing the budgets so the two groups can determine how they can work together;
- Heard Wolters announce that Janet Millard is the CBC's new crafters coordinator and will be getting juried, quality crafters to Main Street;
- Heard Fielder report he gave directions to the polls to 56 Van Buren Township voters during the Feb. 28 election, since there was no sign at the high school to show voters how to get from West Columbia Avenue to their polling places at the rear of the high school. The confused VBT voters stopped at St. Anthony's Fr. Foltz building where both City of Belleville precincts were voting; and

- Heard Fielder report on Belleville Day in Florida and the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The commissioners are considering a Go Fly a Kite event in early May at Village Park and a fun run for kids at Village Park with the help of the Striders and the Mayor on Sept. 15.

Belleville wrestler Shames Delahaye bows out at State tournament

Belleville High School wrestler Shames Delahaye was the lone local qualifier for last weekend's state wrestling tournament at the Palace of Auburn Hills, the location of the Class A Division 1 Individual competition.

Delahaye was eliminated in the season-ending tournament in second round following a 6-0 loss to Oxford High School in the opening round, before losing a 4-2 decision to Rockford in round 2. Delehaye finished the season with a 36-9 record.

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Ask Angela

By Angela Nettro

I am here to answer questions pertaining to buying or selling real estate. Send your questions to "Ask Angela", c/o Belleville-Area Independent, 152 Main Street, Ste. 9, Belleville 48111 or send me an email at nettroandco@comcast.net. I'll answer questions each week in this column.

Question from Sheila in Van Buren Township: My husband and I are currently purchasing a home and should be closing on

it by April 15, 2012. The sales price we paid is quite a bit less than the current SEV on the home. Is there a way that we could make an appointment to dispute the current SEV this month (prior to owning the home) since it will be too late to go to the Board of Review after we close on the home?

Answer: I understand your concern since it will be another year after you buy the home to dispute the SEV. ALSO, after purchasing the taxable will be uncapped to the current SEV. Yes, you can ask the seller if they would go in and dispute the current SEV, or, you could ask the seller to sign an affidavit giving you the right to dispute the current SEV due to you being the future owner of the property.

This would allow the SEV the possibility of being changed this year so that after you close, your uncapped taxable will be the new SEV. Also by closing before May 1st this year you will be able to file for THIS year the owner occupant homestead taxes on the home.

Good Wishes on your new home.

--Angela

ANGELA NETTRO/Broker
Angela Nettro & Co.
(734)697-6655; Fax: (734)697-3531
Email: nettroandco@comcast.net

VBT Police seek information about shooting, home invasion

Van Buren Township Police are seeking witnesses to a shooting and home invasion on Friday night at Hidden Cove Apartments on Belleville Road.

Police Captain Greg Laurain said the two incidents are related and robbery does not appear to be a motive.

Captain Laurain said police responded to the 11000 block of Belleville Road at 9:56 p.m. after a shooting was reported. They found Larry Cornelius Williams with apparent gunshot wounds to his chest, forearm and back.

Williams, 20, of Detroit, told police he was in the Belleville area visiting his cousin and while outside Hidden Cove Apartments, they were approached by four masked men who began shooting at them.

Williams sustained gunshot wounds while his cousin was uninjured. Both sought help by running to a nearby house and calling police.

Williams told police that he couldn't identify the suspects because they were wearing masks and he had no idea why anybody would be shooting at them.

Williams was transported to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, by Huron Valley Ambulance and his condition is unknown.

Laurain said during the investigation, police discovered the scene of a home invasion that occurred in the 46000 block within the complex that was related to the shooting.

Police spoke with Simms-Lewis, 18, who resides there and she told police that while she was in the shower, four masked men kicked open her door and entered her bathroom with guns, demanding to know where Williams was. After they could not find Williams, the four left.

Laurain said police believe this is the point where the four masked gunmen ran into Williams and his cousin outside the building and gunshots were fired.

Anyone with information is asked to call VBT Detectives at 734-699-8930.

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